



DEPARTMENT OF
TOXIC SUBSTANCES
CONTROL

*The mission of the
Department of Toxic
Substances Control is
to provide the
highest level of safety,
and to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

Fact Sheet, January 2008

Investigation and Results at Colton Iron & Metal, Colton, CA

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Leticia Hernández al número (714) 484-5488.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) prepared this fact sheet to let you know about our environmental investigation and recent soil sampling conducted at Colton Iron & Metal (CIM), located at 790 East "M" Street, in Colton. DTSC is overseeing the environmental investigation, testing and cleanup of the site. Inside this fact sheet you will find more information on:

- Why the environmental investigation is necessary
- Site history and land use
- Investigation Results
- Next steps
- Who to contact for more information

There is no immediate health risk from the contaminants found during the soil sampling because the site is paved with concrete limiting public exposure. However, DTSC determined that soil in the area along the north concrete wall has levels of lead and arsenic contaminants above acceptable risk for industrial property use and should be removed.

Why the Investigation is Necessary

In May 2006, the City of Colton requested DTSC to investigate the property for possible contamination at the site. In June 2006, DTSC conducted an investigation and in December 2006, issued a Consent Order for soil sampling to determine if chemicals including lead and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) have been released at the site at levels that could pose a

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

DTSC invites you to complete and return a community survey assessing public interest on the environmental investigation being conducted at the Colton Iron & Metals site. Our goal is to restore and protect the environment, in part by conducting and overseeing cleanups. Your responses will help shape upcoming public participation opportunities associated with this site. Please complete the enclosed community survey questionnaire by February 8, 2008, and mail or E-mail to:

Ms. Stacey Lear
Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
E-mail: sllear@dtsc.ca.gov





health threat to workers, nearby residents, and the environment. In May 2007, DTSC approved an initial sampling workplan and provided oversight for the implementation of the soil sampling to evaluate certain areas at the site for possible contamination.

Site Location, History and Operations

The 3.5 acre site is paved with concrete and has two metal buildings and storage structures. The adjoining land is 36.5 acres on the west and south and is unimproved. The Surrounding area is mainly industrial/commercial with some residential properties located about one quarter mile west of the facility.

The first recorded use of the property was in 1899 when Armour Car Line started railroad box-car manufacturing at the site. Until the mid 1950s, the property was a part of the Pacific Fruit Express wooden and steel railroad box-car manufacturing and refurbishment complex. The property was vacant from the mid 1950s until 1968 when CIM began operating a scrap metal and automobile dismantling business at the site. Currently, CIM activities consist of purchasing recyclable scrap metal, sorting, consolidating, and storing in stockpiles until the scrap metal is transferred for processing and recycling.

Investigation Results

A total of 125 soil samples were collected at depths ranging from 0 to 10 feet. Areas sampled include the Steel Scale House, Former Car Pressing Area, Former Battery Storage Area, Storm water Retention Area/Maintenance and Dismantling Containment, and along the Concrete Wall at the north area of the site. The soil samples were analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and metals including lead and arsenic.

Out of the one hundred and twenty five samples analyzed, only five samples detected lead above an industrial risk level. The lead level in these samples ranged from 889 mg/kg to 48,000mg/kg. Four of these five samples also detected arsenic above the background level. The arsenic level in these samples ranged from 6 mg/kg to 33 mg/kg. All of these samples were taken underneath the concrete pavement along the Concrete Wall. All the other chemicals tested never exceeded their appropriate risk based levels for industrial use of the property.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC is required by CEQA to review environmental activities for the possibility of an impact, before approving the draft IM Workplan activities. Information on our CEQA review for the draft IM Workplan activities will be available in a future mailing.

Next Steps

DTSC is working with CIM on a Corrective Action Consent Agreement for removal of lead and PCBs found along the Concrete Wall. The facility will prepare a draft Interim Measure (IM) Workplan and submit it to DTSC for review and approval.

How You Can Participate

In the near future and prior to approval of the IM Workplan, DTSC will seek public input on the draft IM Workplan during a 30-day public comment period. DTSC will prepare a future fact sheet with information on how you can participate in DTSC's decision making process regarding the draft IM Workplan. DTSC invites you to complete and return the enclosed Community Survey Questionnaire assessing public interest on the environmental investigation for the CIM site. Our goal is to restore and protect the environment, in part by conducting and overseeing cleanups. Your responses will help shape upcoming public participation opportunities associated with this site. Please complete the enclosed survey questionnaire by February 8, 2008.

Where to Find Project Documents

Project documents can be viewed at the following Information Repositories:

Luque Branch Library

294 East "O" Street

Colton, CA 92324

(909) 370-5182

Mon – Fri 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Mon – Fri 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Saturday & Sunday – Closed

City Clerk's Office**City of Colton**

650 North La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 370-5099 (ask for city clerk's office)
Mon – Thurs 7:00AM – 6:00PM

Community Development Department**City of Colton**

659 North La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 370-5099 (ask for community development department)
Mon – Thurs 7:00AM – 6:00PM

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5337
Mon – Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM
Please contact Ms. Julie Johnson at the above number to make an appointment.

Who to Contact at DTSC for Information

If you have any questions about the project, please contact the following persons:

Ms. Rada Chanmugathas, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5386
E-mail: rchanmug@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866- 495-5651
E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

For Media Inquiries

Ms. Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1101 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201-2205
(818) 551-5383
E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Ms. Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.

**COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE
COLTON IRON & METAL, 790 EAST "M" STREET, COLTON, CA**

1) How long have you lived or worked in the area?

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 6-12 years ☐ 13-20 years ☐ 21 or more years

2) Prior to reading the letter, were you aware of the Colton Iron & Metal site?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, where did you acquire your prior knowledge about the site?

☐ Newspapers ☐ Neighbors ☐ Relatives

☐ Other (Please specify source, especially if you have any information about the early history of the site):

3) What is your current level of interest in the Colton Iron & Metal site?

☐ None ☐ Low to moderate ☐ Moderate to high

4) Do you have any specific concerns about the Colton Iron & Metal site? If so, please describe:

5) Have you had any contact with local, state or other officials regarding the Colton Iron & Metals site?

☐ YES ➔➔ If YES, please describe: _____

☐ NO

6) What languages are spoken in your community? _____

If you named a language besides English, do you feel that future communication to community members regarding this site should be written in this language? ☐ YES ☐ No

7) Do you attend meetings in your community on issues that are of concern to you?

☐ Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Almost Never

8) Are you interested in receiving information about the environmental investigation and future work at the Colton Iron & Metals site?

☐ YES ➔➔ If YES, what is the best way?

☐ Fact Sheets or Letters

☐ NO

☐ Community Meetings

☐ Other (please specify): _____

9) Can you suggest any other person or group who might be interested in receiving information about the Colton Iron & Metals site or future work?

10) Please let us know of any other comments or suggestions.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Please mail this document to:

**Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630
Attn: Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist**

Please fold the letter with the address showing, place stamp on the right hand side and seal, thank you.



Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630

Inside: Information & Community Survey on the Colton Iron & Metal Site

For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov